

Application No. 09/776,248  
Inventor: Hawkins, B.J.  
Examiner: Charles R Kyle  
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October 19, 2005

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION MAILED APRIL 21, 2005**

Please find response to Office communication below. I have filed for an extension and enclosed the required fee of \$510.00.

**Responses**

**Claims 12-24**

**Claim 12** is corrected, "allowing prospective suppliers to assess or view the requisition on line"

**Claim 17** recites "authorized supplier" authorized supplier is intended. Potential and authorized suppliers have access, authorized suppliers are notified.

**Claim 20** recites steps a) - d); this sequence of steps is the method for the prospective supplier. The sequence of step identifiers in Claim 12 is the method for the organization.

**Claim 21** recites steps e) - g); the Examiner may have overlooked that these are additional and different step identifiers which include "changing the requisition to a closed status"; "reviewing the bids"; and "selecting based on the organizations selection criteria".

**Claim 22** recites steps a) – b); the Examiner may have overlooked that these are additional and different step identifiers, which include " time period during which said prospective suppliers who have a bid to alter or withdraw their bid; and "setting a specific time when bids can no longer be withdrawn or altered".